

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA
 AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

For Period Ending March 3, 1996

Issue: 02-96

Phone: (402) 437-5541

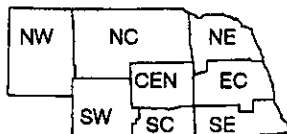
P.O. Box 81069

Released: 3/4/96 - 3:00 p.m.

Location: 273 Federal Bldg.

Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

The week's normal temperatures were well below averages. The temperatures averaged eight to seventeen degrees below normals across the State. Light precipitation was wide spread across the State with amounts ranging from a trace to two-tenths of an inch in the form of rain or snow.

GENERAL

Dry conditions continued during February, with most counties receiving only trace amounts of precipitation, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Temperatures, well above normal during the second and third weeks of the month, melted the limited snow cover and exposed topsoil. Some wheat growers in the West and South were chiseling fields to help control wind erosion. The wheat crop remains dormant, with normal green-up a month away. Producer activities during February included equipment maintenance, disking, chiseling, fertilizer application, attending meetings, monitoring young calves and lambs, tax preparations and moving grain to market. By the last week of the month, oat seeding got underway in southeast and east central parts of the State.

GENERAL (Cont.)

Stored grains were reported to be in good condition in most areas.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition declined during the month and rated 3% very poor, 23% poor, 51% fair, 19% good, and 4% excellent. Moisture supplies are critically short in many counties and wind erosion is a serious problem in the Panhandle and southwest. Some farmers, fearing additional damage from winds, have used chisels to "rough up" fields in an attempt to control wind erosion. The extent of the damage from wind and winter kill won't be fully known until plants break dormancy. However, some fields are known to have been destroyed by producers.

LIVESTOCK

Calving activities were well underway with calving 31% complete. Condition of cattle and calves was rated 1% poor, 16% fair, 72% good, and 11% excellent. Supplies of feed grain and hay were mostly adequate.

WINTER REPORTING AS OF MARCH 3, 1996	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST REPORT	LAST YEAR
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
	PERCENT										
% Cows Calved	31	12	17	31	31	33	37	30	31	6	20
SUPPLIES OF FEED GRAINS AND HAY AND FORAGE AS OF MARCH 1, 1996											
Feed Grains - Very Short	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0
- Short	14	10	13	24	31	16	13	18	17	7	3
- Adequate	84	90	77	74	68	84	86	80	80	89	83
- Surplus	0	0	10	2	1	0	1	0	2	3	14
Hay and Forage - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0
- Short	14	2	7	3	12	1	7	16	8	9	7
- Adequate	84	96	90	87	85	96	90	81	89	87	83
- Surplus	2	2	3	10	3	3	3	0	3	3	10

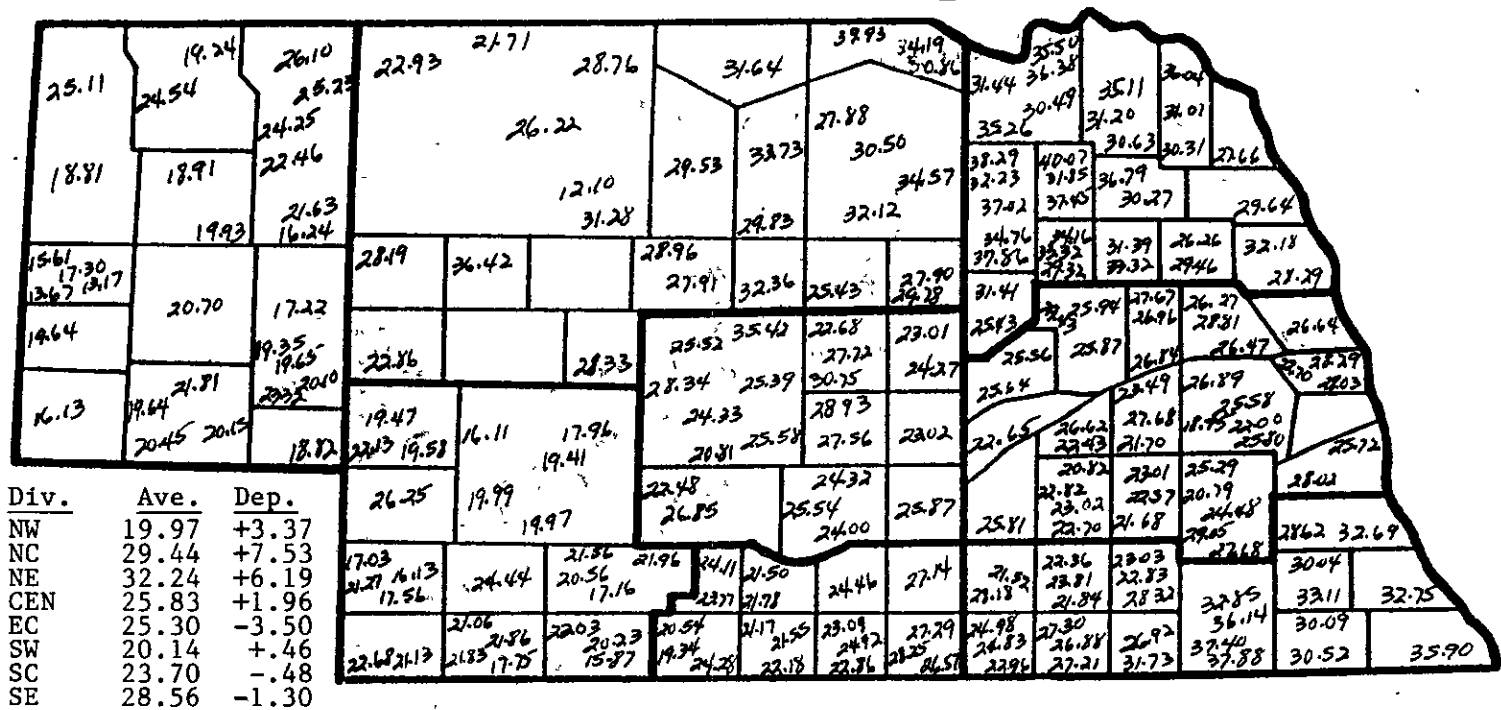
NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 273 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$15.00 per year to non-reporters. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS
P.O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501

Second Class Postage
Paid at
Lincoln, Nebraska

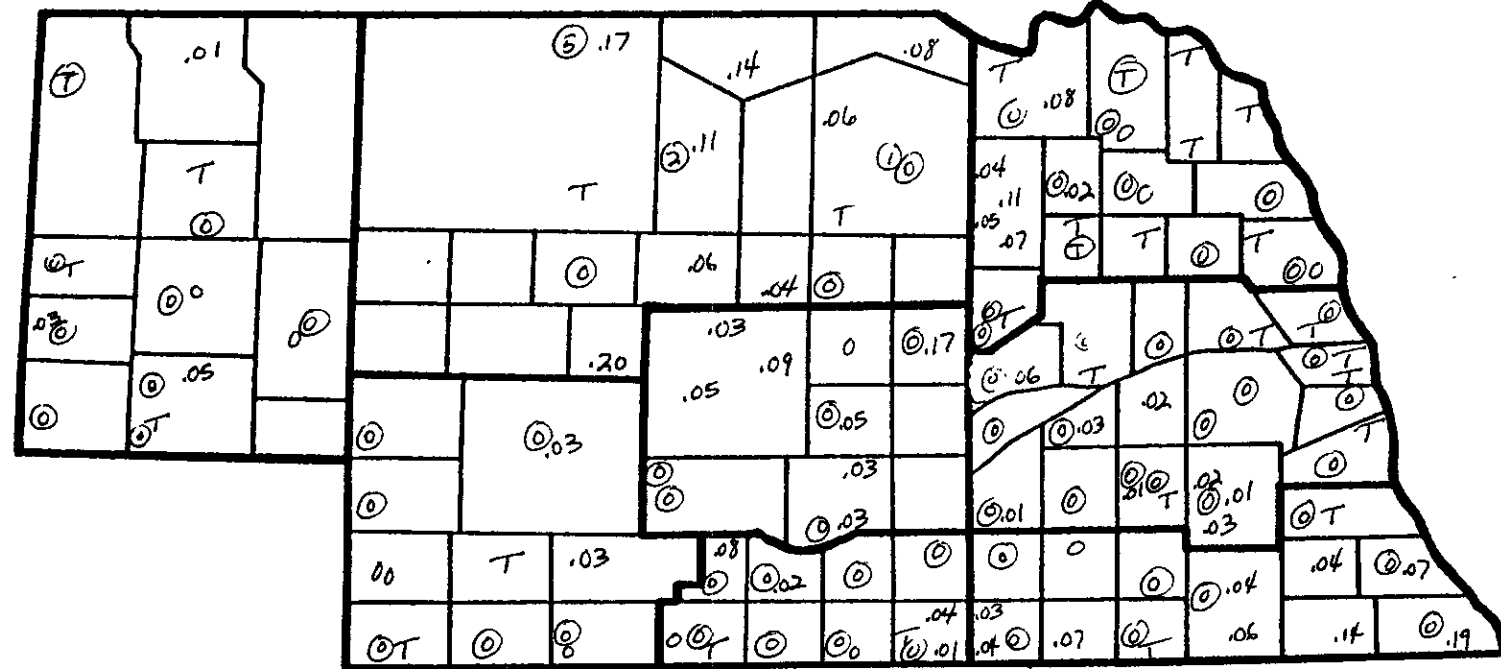
*Run
1300
3/4/96*

ANNUAL PRECIPITATION FOR 1995 1/



1/ Courtesy of the Climate Resources Office, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1996



Circled numbers represent depth of snow as of March 1, 1996.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1996

Station		Temperature			Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Total Inches 1/
		Max	Min		
NW	Chadron	40	-4	18	.01
	Scottsbluff	40	-2	21	T
	Sidney	40	-2	19	T
NC	Valentine	34	-14	11	.17
NE	Norfolk	56	1	20	T
	Sioux City	54	0	20	T
CEN	Grand Island	57	0	22	T
	Ord	45	-1	17	0
EC	Lincoln	65	4	24	.01
	Omaha	64	3	24	T
SW	Imperial	46	0	27	0
	North Platte	42	-4	20	.03

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.